

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Helmut D. LINK

Serial No.: 10/552,707

Filing Date: October 7, 2005

For: PROSTHETIC INTERVERTEBRAL  
JOINT FOR THE CERVICAL SPINE (as  
amended)

Examiner: Ann M. Schillinger

Group Art Unit: 3774

Confirmation No.: 6815

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.114**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Action dated January 22, 2009, and concurrently with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination, please amend this application as follows.

Amendments to the claims begin on page 2.

Remarks begin on page 4 .